

Hello, world!



by Jan Marsal

Technique

Aquarium:	JUWELRIO 350 SET
Volume:	350 L
Light:	Juwel MultiLux LED 120 - 2x23"
Substrate:	Tropica Aquarium soil, 18l
Gravel:	DENNERLE Crystal-Quartz, 1kg
Decoration:	Locally sourced stones + mangrove wood
Filter:	Juwel rio 350 set
CO2:	3bubbles/second
Maintenance (hours per week):	½-1

"This aquarium belongs to a gentleman who retired from his daily work and wanted to replace his old-style fish tank with a modern nature aquarium. Maintenance of the previous aquarium was very time-consuming and the constant battle with algae was very tiring, we, therefore, decided to make a complete rescue.

For the substrate, we choose to go with Tropica aquarium soil and small amounts of decorative sand, used in the foreground. Sand consists of a mixture of Dennerle Crystal Quartz sand and different variations of the sands from the hobby market. Stones were taken from a nearby mine which saved us a significant amount of money, due to the size of the tank and the fact that stones are one of the most expensive things in the hobby. For the hardscape, we chose 3 pcs. of red moor wood, mainly because this type of wood provides you with great details without too much effort.

The main goal of this rescue was to achieve a stable long-term nature aquarium with little to no maintenance required, on top of the routine water changes. That's why we went with plants in the easy and medium categories, focusing mainly on the easy ones. We also avoided stem plants, simply because easy-category stem plants require loads of trimming. We also set up a new easy maintenance routine, replacing the "bucket method" with the "hose, pump, bucket in the sink method". The pump makes your maintenance routine quick and painless, I would highly recommend it to everyone with tanks above 60l."

Said Jan Marsal

Plants used in this layout

1)	Bucephalandra pygmaea 'Bukit Kelam'	(139 TC)	2 pcs.
10)	Bacopa monnieri 'Compact'	(044A)	3 pcs.
11)	Cryptocoryne wendtii 'Green'	(109 TC)	2 pcs.
12)	Hottonia palustris	(027 TC)	3 pcs.
13)	Hygrophila corymbosa 'Siamensis 53B'	(053B)	2 pcs.
14)		()	1 pcs.
15)	Ludwigia repens 'Rubin'	(033D)	3 pcs.
2)	Anubias barteri 'Petite'	(101H)	3 pcs.
3)	Bolbitis heudelotii	(006)	2 pcs.
4)	Microsorium pteropus 'Windeløv'	(008B)	4 pcs.
5)	Vesicularia montagnei 'Christmas Moss'	(003A TC)	2 pcs.
6)	Lilaeopsis brasiliensis	(040 TC)	2 pcs.
7)	Helanthium tenellum 'Green'	(067A TC)	4 pcs.
8)	Marsilea hirsuta	(010 TC)	3 pcs.
9)	Staurogyne repens	(049G TC)	2 pcs.